it will not be in tlie interest of justice to reveal the evidence coilected during these raids as it may impinge upon the investigation.

Raids under anti-corruption drive

†2916. SHRI B.P. ARTE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government conducts raids under anti-corruption drives;

(b) the number of such raids during the last three years and the an^unt seized during the same; and

(c) the number of persons penalised during the last three years out of the accused persons apprehended during raids?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI); (a) and (b) As per the information furnished by the Central Bureau of Investigations, raids are conducted under anti-corruption programiTie.Five special drives were conducted during the last three years and 174 cases have been registered. It will not be in the interest of justice to reveal the evidence collected during these raids as it may prove prejudicial to the investigation process.

(c) In six cases chargesheets have been filed In the Court, 27 cases have been referred for regular departmental action, five have been converted into regular cases after completion of preliminary inquiry, five cases have been referred to concerned Departments for further action, two cases have been closed and in other cases investigation is on.

Attendance of Ministers In their offices

2917. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Ministers do not attend their offices regularly;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the reasons for not atending offices by the Ministers are their touring official engagements; and

(d) the recrod of the Ministers attendance in their offices?

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†Original notice of the quostion was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D.SWAMI): (a) to (d) A Union Minister is an important functionary appointed by the President in terms of article 75 of the Constitution of India.

The Salaries and Allowances of Ministers' Act, 1952 and the Ministers' (Allowances, Medical Treatment and other Privileges) Rules, 1957 do not carry a provision for grant of leave to the Union Ministers implying that they are on duty usually at all times. Need for maintenance of any record whether a Union Minister is attending his office regularly or not is, therefore.not considered necessary. Besides, Union Ministers also have offices at their residences from where they discharge their official obligations as Union Ministers.

Meeting of NSAB with NSC

2918. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Security Advisory Board met the National Security Council in October, 2002 for the second time in nearly five years; and

(b) if so, what were the decisions taken at the meet?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) The National Security Advisory Board (NSAB) provides inputs to the Government on a varity of security related issues from time to time. The reports, asessments and policy recommendations prepared by the NSAB are sent to the national Security Advisor on a regular basis. These are then fed to the National Security Council (NSC)/Cabinet Committee on Security. An interaction between the NSC and the NSAB chaired by the Prime Minister was organized on October 16,2002. Earlier, the Prime Minister had taken a meeting of the NSAB on June 8, 1999, which was aiso attended by the members of the National Security Council. In the meeting held on October 16,2002, the NSAB reviewed the national security situation and *inter-alia* issues arising from the continuing cross-border terrorism, the recent elections in Pakistan and successful conclusion of elections in Jammu and Kashmir were analysed. The NSAB made a series of recommendations as to how India should deal with the current situation. It would, however, not be in the national interest to divulge specific details in this regard.